

GOVERNMENT LIBRARY WESTERN AUSTRALIA.  
STATISTICIANS LIBRARY

Report for the month of MARCH, 1948.

GOVT. STATISTICIAN

19 MAY 1948

RECORDS

Issued by the Government Statistician (Mr. R.J. Little) Perth, 4/5/48.

This report gives the latest available figures relative to Population; Marriages; Births and Deaths; Land Settlement; State Government Revenue and Expenditure; Savings Banks; Bank Clearances; Real Estate Transactions; Sales Tax; Companies Registered and Bankruptcy; Government Railway Operations; Motor Vehicle Registrations; Trade; Building Construction; Butter Production; Gold Output and Dividends Reported; Retail Prices Index; Employment; Unemployment Benefits; Electricity Supply (Metropolitan Area) and Livestock Slaughtering.

POPULATION.

The population of the State on the 31st December, 1947 was estimated to be 506,400, comprising 260,000 Males and 246,400 Females.

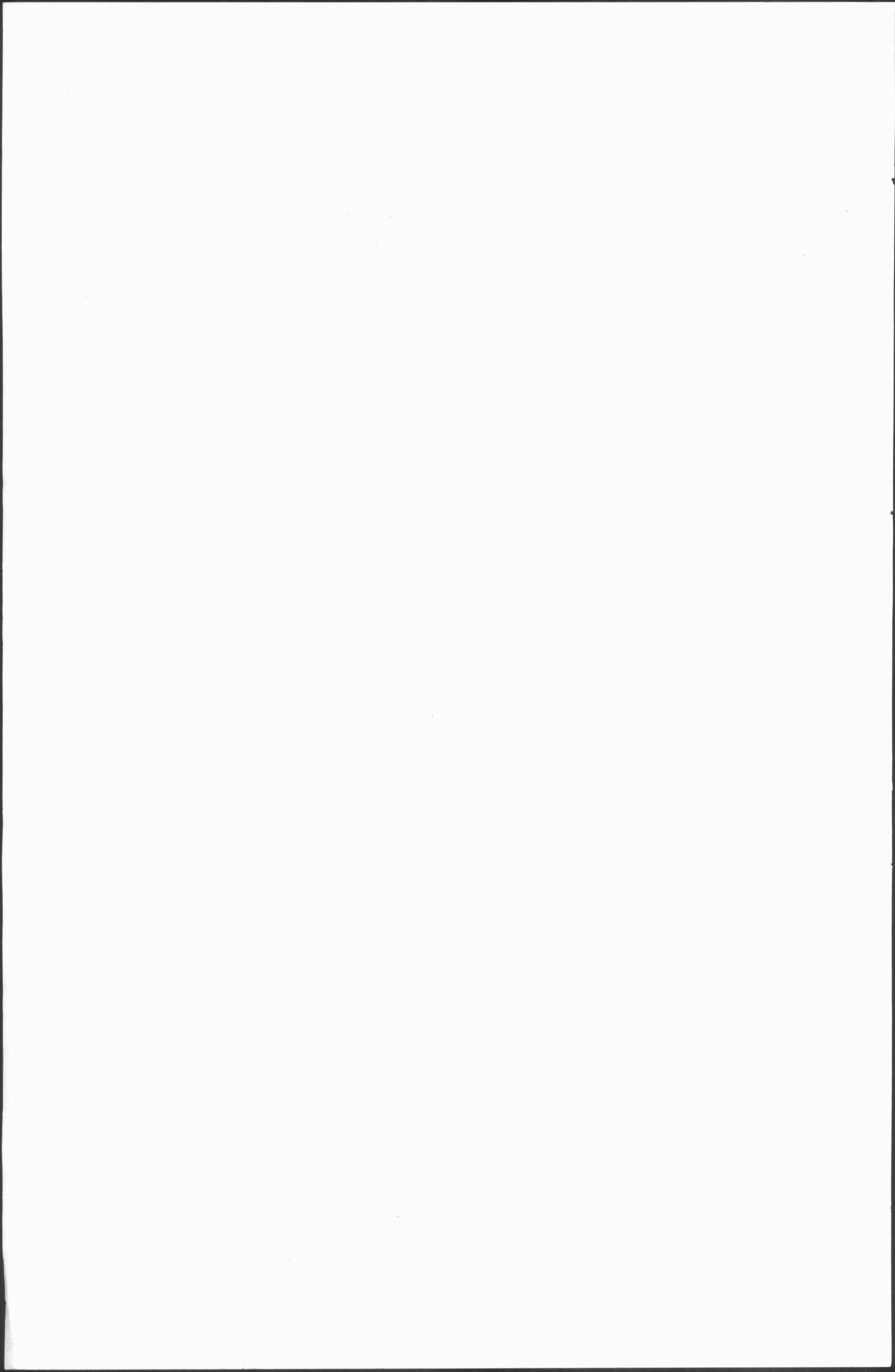
On 30th June, 1947, the population of the Metropolitan Area was 272,586.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

|                                  | FEBRUARY |       | Two Months ended -<br>FEBRUARY |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|
|                                  | 1948     | 1947  | 1948                           | 1947  |
| Marriages ..... No.              | 478      | 488   | 947                            | 1,015 |
| *Rate per 1000<br>of population  | 11.89    | 12.73 | 11.39                          | 12.58 |
| Births ..... No.                 | 995      | 1,102 | 2,059                          | 2,481 |
| * Rate per 1000<br>of population | 24.75    | 28.76 | 24.77                          | 30.75 |
| Deaths ..... No.                 | 308      | 364   | 675                            | 738   |
| *Rate per 1000<br>of population  | 7.66     | 9.50  | 8.12                           | 9.15  |
| Infant Mortality No.             | 28       | 44    | 56                             | 77    |
| Rate per 1000<br>Live Births     | 28.14    | 39.93 | 27.20                          | 31.04 |
| <u>PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH</u> |          |       |                                |       |
| Tuberculosis                     | 9        | 8     | 25                             | 25    |
| Cancer                           | 41       | 54    | 95                             | 95    |
| Influenza                        | -        | -     | -                              | -     |
| Diphtheria                       | -        | 2     | 2                              | 2     |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.       | 36       | 24    | 68                             | 60    |
| Arteriosclerosis                 | 8        | 16    | 14                             | 34    |
| Diseases of the Heart            | 81       | 81    | 191                            | 177   |
| Pneumonia and Broncho Pneumonia  | 17       | 17    | 26                             | 43    |
| Diarrhoea and Enteritis          | 2        | 2     | 4                              | 5     |
| Nephritis                        | 13       | 12    | 21                             | 25    |
| Diseases of Early Infancy        | 15       | 17    | 33                             | 37    |
| Senility                         | 6        | 13    | 11                             | 26    |
| Accidents                        | 17       | 28    | 44                             | 52    |
| All Other Causes                 | 63       | 90    | 141                            | 157   |
| TOTAL                            | 308      | 364   | 675                            | 738   |

\* Equivalent Annual Rate.

*Mr Berry*



LAND SETTLEMENT.

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the three months ended March totalled 171,749 acres, an increase of 8,666 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 571,519 acres, a decrease of 1,750,832 acres.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

|                                | Month of MARCH |           | 9 Months ended MARCH |            |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|
|                                | 1948           | 1947      | 1948                 | 1947       |
|                                | £              | £         | £                    | £          |
| Revenue .....                  | 1,413,380      | 1,290,634 | 11,936,175           | 10,195,653 |
| Revenue per Head of Population | £2.15.8d.      | £2.11.7d. | £23.12.3d.           | £20.9.11d. |
| Expenditure .....              | 1,571,830      | 1,266,019 | 12,973,585           | 10,875,185 |
| Expenditure per Head of Popln. | £3.1.11d.      | £2.10.7d. | £25.13.4d.           | £21.17.3d. |

SAVINGS BANKS.

Deposits on the 31st March amounted to £35,551,772, or £69.19.1d. per head of population as against £36,375,079 or £72.12.8d. per head as at the 31st March last year.

BANK CLEARANCES.

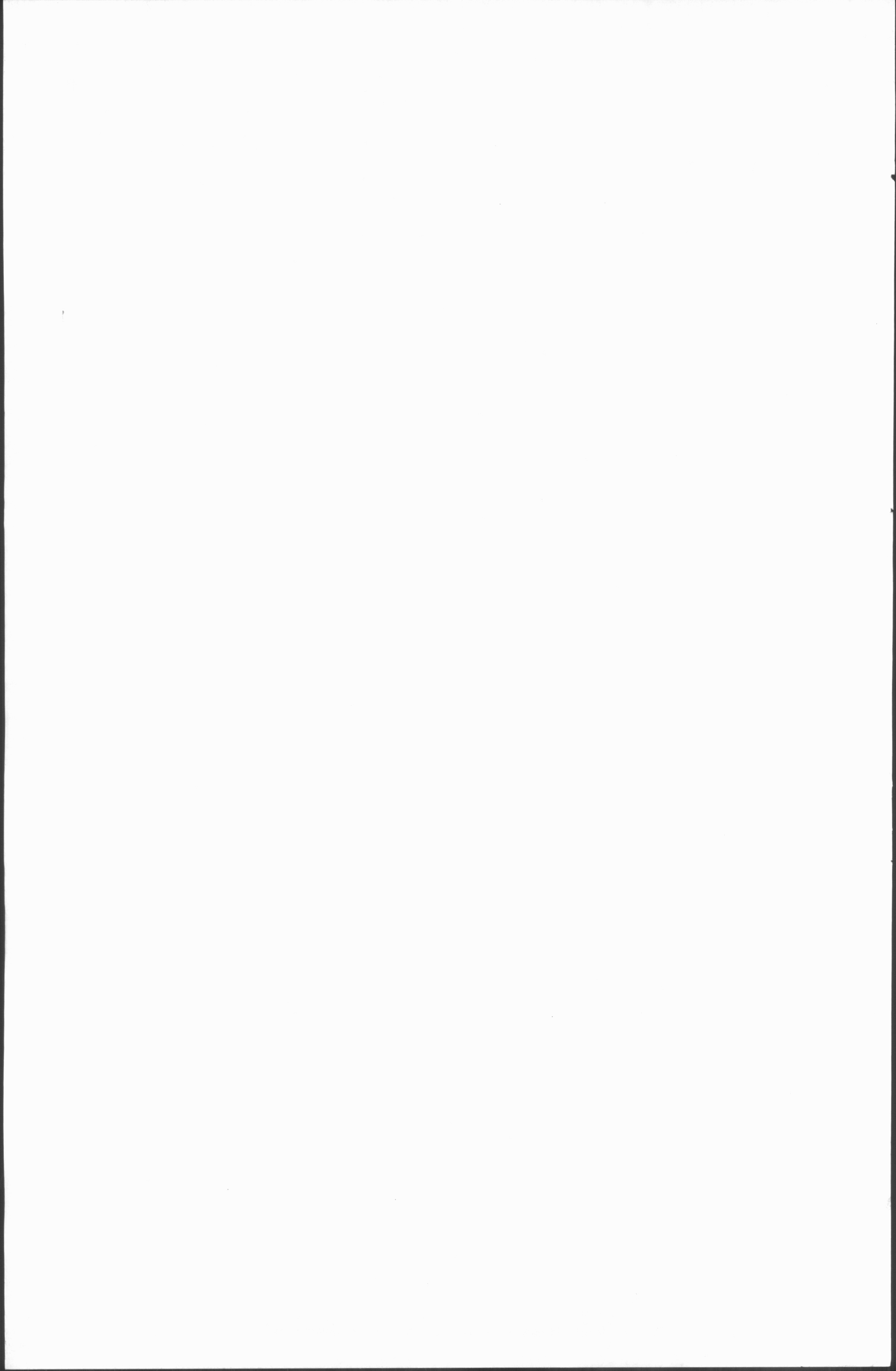
The average weekly clearances for the 5 weeks ended 31st March, 1948 amounted to £4,651,731, compared with £4,068,107 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

| Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds |        | MARCH              |                  | 9 Months ended MARCH |                     |
|---|--------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|   |        | 1948               | 1947             | 1948                 | 1947                |
| Transfers   | (No. £ | 1,415<br>1,122,426 | 1,606<br>995,910 | 12,924<br>6,928,155  | 13,855<br>7,224,841 |
| Mortgages   | (No. £ | 817<br>757,142     | 873<br>881,713   | 7,917<br>7,348,457   | 7,908<br>6,924,469  |
| Discharges of Mortgages                                       | No.    | 749                | 877              | 7,789                | 7,200               |

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS AND TAX COLLECTED.

| Month of Receipt of Returns | Taxable Goods                                    |  | Sales of Exempt Goods | Tax Collected |
|-----------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|---------------|
|                             | Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable (Gross) | Sales in respect of which Tax is Not Payable (Gross) |                       |               |
|                             | £  | £  | £                     | £             |
| 1947 -                      |  |  |                       |               |
| February                    | 981,890  | 1,571,910  | 2,100,827             | 130,422       |
| March                       | 1,025,999  | 1,034,280  | 1,706,073             | 148,225       |
| April                       | 1,032,193  | 904,783  | 2,181,750             | 131,075       |
| May                         | 1,133,005  | 1,172,830  | 2,513,691             | 119,906       |
| June                        | 999,553  | 1,235,966  | 3,085,537             | 134,149       |
| July                        | 986,992  | 890,625  | 2,815,570             | 125,720       |
| August                      | 1,181,616  | 934,743  | 2,284,635             | 155,234       |
| September                   | 1,381,485  | 1,062,710  | 3,286,715             | 163,596       |
| October                     | 1,238,310  | 854,181  | 2,878,237             | 156,911       |
| November                    | 1,142,486  | 796,547  | 2,541,336             | 135,913       |
| December                    | 1,120,213  | 1,104,042  | 3,833,345             | 138,832       |
| 1948 -                      |  |  |                       |               |
| January                     | 1,269,393  | 752,509  | 3,011,477             | 175,780       |
| February                    | 1,257,388  | 864,177  | 3,248,518             | 137,796       |
| March                       | 1,093,047  | 599,259  | 2,779,556             | 148,425       |





COMPANIES REGISTERED.

87 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £2,592,500 and 35 Foreign Companies were registered during the nine months ended March, 1948. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 73 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £1,418,250 and 34 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY.

|                         | 9 Months ended MARCH |             |         |      |             |         |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------|------|-------------|---------|
|                         | 1948                 |             |         | 1947 |             |         |
|                         | No.                  | Liabilities | Assets  | No.  | Liabilities | Assets  |
| Sequestration Orders    | 11                   | £ 24,481    | £ 3,851 | 15   | £ 14,568    | £ 3,523 |
| Deeds of Assignment (a) | 7                    | 13,074      | 10,271  | 8    | 12,997      | 9,023   |
| Deeds of Arrangement    | --                   | --          | --      | --   | --          | --      |

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

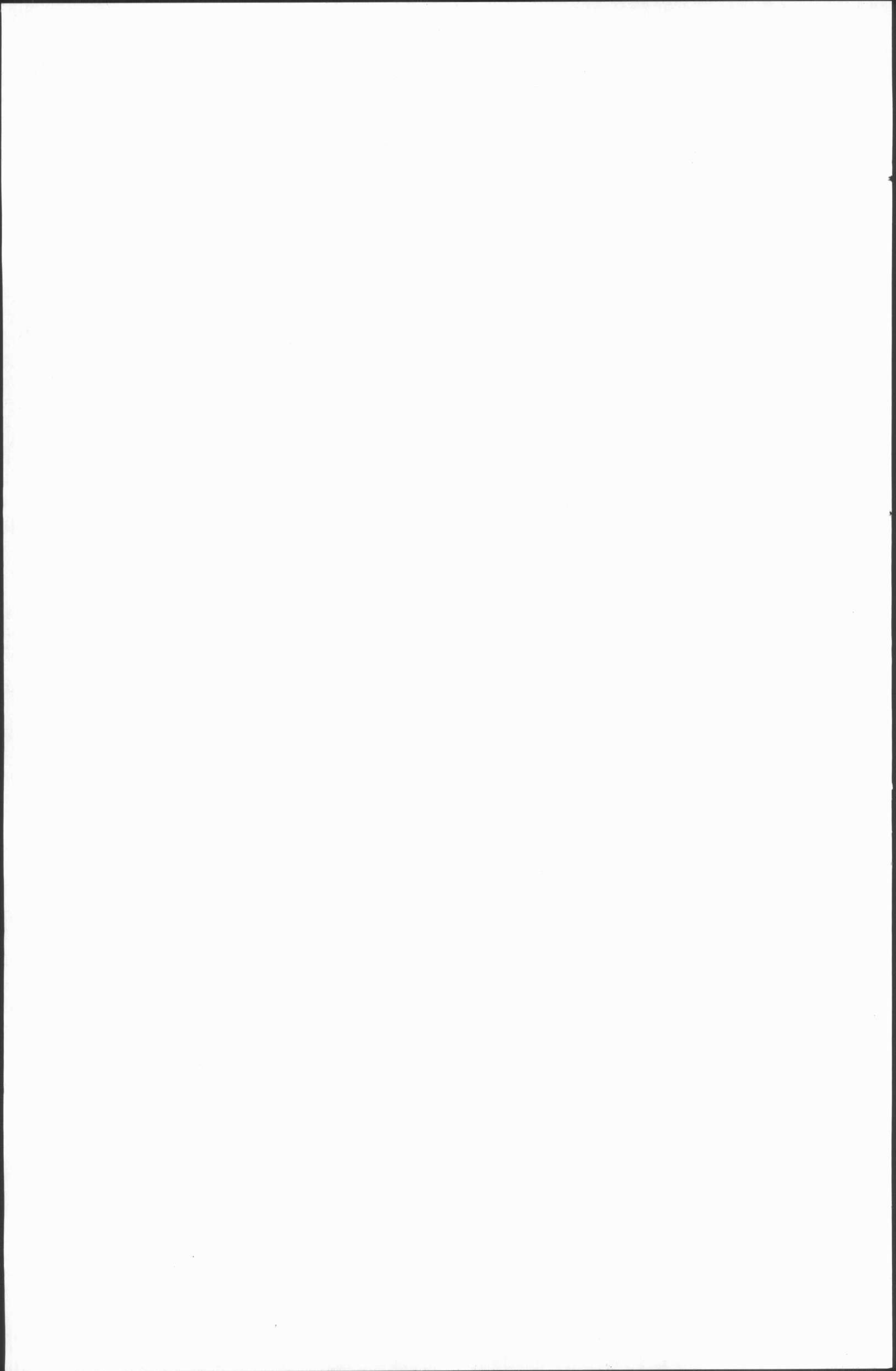
TRANSPORT.

The operations of the State Government Railways open for general and passenger traffic were as follows :-

|                             | FEBRUARY    |            | 8 Months ended FEBRUARY |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|                             | 1948        | 1947       | 1948                    | 1947        |
| Gross Earnings (£)          | 351,740     | 330,900    | 3,076,300               | 2,622,100   |
| Working Expenses (£)        | 477,539     | 346,070    | 3,521,206               | 2,799,498   |
| Train Miles Run             | 540,211     | 562,451    | 4,849,690               | 4,312,388   |
| Passenger Journeys          | (a) 917,093 | 1,085,729  | (b) 7,826,705           | 8,779,983   |
| Tonnage Carried -           |             |            |                         |             |
| Paying Goods                | 207,742     | 216,871    | 1,748,024               | 1,509,860   |
| Livestock                   | 11,199      | 11,386     | 117,271                 | 104,838     |
| Departmental (Free Freight) | 44,185      | 37,510     | 384,384                 | 332,979     |
| Total                       | 263,126     | 265,767    | 2,249,679               | 1,947,677   |
| Net Ton Mileage of -        |             |            |                         |             |
| Paying Goods                | 29,536,923  | 31,202,463 | 255,707,350             | 209,966,376 |
| Livestock                   | 1,183,469   | 1,332,334  | 14,313,638              | 13,187,267  |
| Departmental (Free Freight) | 6,219,675   | 5,790,218  | 62,179,675              | 52,731,402  |
| Total                       | 36,940,067  | 38,325,015 | 332,200,663             | 275,885,045 |

(a) Figures for January.

(b) Seven Months ended January.



MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (EXCLUDING COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES).

| Period            | METROPOLITAN AREA          |                         |       |              | ENTIRE STATE               |                         |       |              |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|
|                   | Cars (Including Hire Cars) | Wagons, Vans, Utilities | Buses | Motor Cycles | Cars (Including Hire Cars) | Wagons, Vans, Utilities | Buses | Motor Cycles |
|                   | No.                        | No.                     | No.   | No.          | No.                        | No.                     | No.   | No.          |
| Year 1946         | 536                        | 328                     | 11    | 422          | 637                        | 718                     | 16    | 513          |
| Year 1947         | 1,224                      | 519                     | 40    | 593          | 2,066                      | 1,685                   | 54    | 883          |
| 1948 -<br>January | 74                         | 27                      | 1     | 49           | 140                        | 124                     | 5     | 80           |

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGNS.)\*

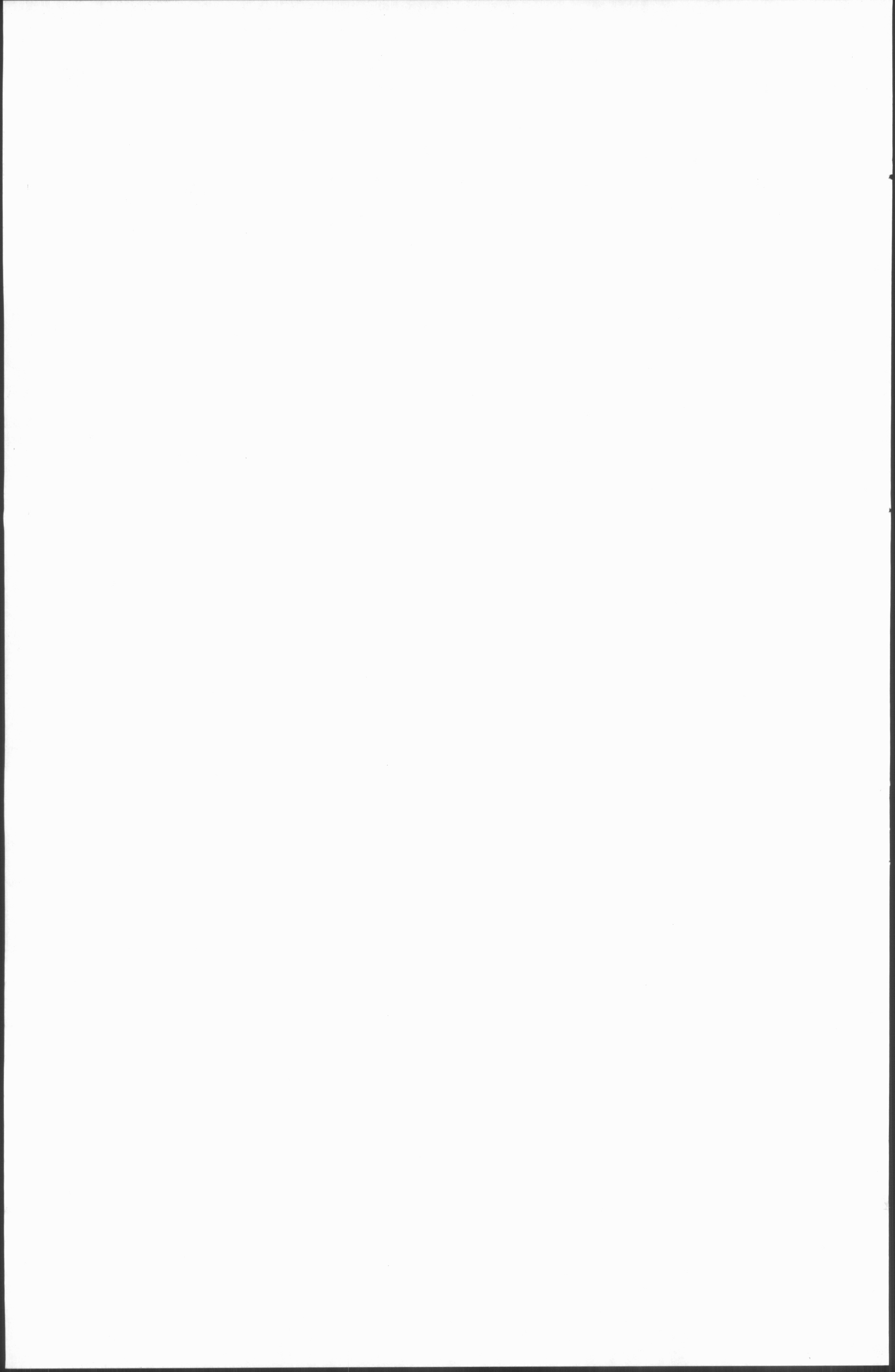
| Date<br>(As at end of Month) | METROPOLITAN AREA          |                         |       |              | ENTIRE STATE               |                         |       |              |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|
|                              | Cars (Including Hire Cars) | Wagons, Vans, Utilities | Buses | Motor Cycles | Cars (Including Hire Cars) | Wagons, Vans, Utilities | Buses | Motor Cycles |
|                              | No.                        | No.                     | No.   | No.          | No.                        | No.                     | No.   | No.          |
| 1946 -<br>June               | 19,214                     | 7,989                   | 204   | 4,295        | 31,316                     | 28,147                  | 309   | 6,794        |
| December                     | 19,770                     | 8,878                   | 243   | 4,709        | 31,777                     | 30,096                  | 319   | 7,324        |
| 1947 -<br>June               | 20,522                     | 9,467                   | 255   | 5,290        | 32,793                     | 31,382                  | 331   | 8,196        |
| December                     | 21,425                     | 10,075                  | 271   | 5,321        | 34,096                     | 33,210                  | 379   | 8,213        |
| 1948 -<br>January            | 21,542                     | 10,134                  | 270   | 5,373        | 33,728                     | 32,069                  | 399   | 8,276        |

\* Excluding Commonwealth-owned Vehicles, which comprised for January, 1948 - 110 Cars; 430 Wagons, Vans, etc; 6 Buses and 3 Motor Cycles.

TRADE (Interstate and Oversea)

Trade of Western Australia, February, 1948 and 1947, and 8 months ending February, 1948 and 1947, expressed in terms of Australian Currency :-

|            | IMPORTS   |       |                         |        | EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores) |       |                         |        |
|------------|-----------|-------|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|--------|
|            | FEBRUARY  |       | 8 Months ended FEBRUARY |        | FEBRUARY                          |       | 8 Months ended FEBRUARY |        |
|            | 1948      | 1947  | 1948                    | 1947   | 1948                              | 1947  | 1948                    | 1947   |
|            | (£A1,000) |       | (£A1,000)               |        | (£A1,000)                         |       | (£A1,000)               |        |
| Oversea    | 1,569     | 663   | 10,550                  | 6,032  | 6,316                             | 2,673 | 31,101                  | 14,482 |
| Interstate | 1,765     | 1,597 | 17,005                  | 13,814 | 278                               | 375   | 3,943                   | 2,546  |
| TOTAL      | 3,334     | 2,260 | 27,555                  | 19,846 | 6,594                             | 3,048 | 35,044                  | 17,028 |



# BUILDING ACTIVITY.

Note: These tables supersede particulars published in previous reports of Building Permits issued by Local Authorities.

## (1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

| Period          | Houses & Other Dwellings (a) |       | Factories |       | Other |       | Total |       |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                 | No.                          | Value | No.       | Value | No.   | Value | No.   | Value |
|                 |                              | £,000 |           | £,000 |       | £,000 |       | £,000 |
| March Qr., 1946 | 206                          | 168   | 7         | 5     | 26    | 21    | 239   | 194   |
| June Qr., 1946  | 295                          | 271   | 15        | 41    | 35    | 40    | 345   | 352   |
| Sept. Qr., 1946 | 364                          | 337   | 14        | 20    | 44    | 59    | 422   | 416   |
| Dec. Qr., 1946  | 451                          | 445   | 16        | 16    | 40    | 72    | 507   | 533   |
| March Qr., 1947 | 412                          | 423   | 7         | 8     | 50    | 131   | 469   | 562   |
| June Qr., 1947  | 483                          | 515   | 8         | 5     | 32    | 35    | 523   | 555   |
| Sept. Qr., 1947 | 670                          | 699   | 9         | 17    | 40    | 66    | 719   | 782   |
| Dec. Qr., 1947  | 680                          | 743   | 13        | 34    | 42    | 95    | 735   | 872   |

(a) Excluding Owner-Built Dwellings.

## (2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION. (Excluding Owner-Built Homes)

Note: Monthly figures are preliminary only.

| Period          | Number Completed            |                     |                                     |       |       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|
|                 | Brick, Stone Concrete, etc. | Wood or Mainly Wood | Fibro-Cement or mainly Fibro-Cement | Other | Total |
| Year 1946       | 572                         | 174                 | 339                                 | 224   | 1,309 |
| Year 1947       | 1,088                       | 237                 | 850                                 | 59    | 2,234 |
| 1948 -          |                             |                     |                                     |       |       |
| January - Month | 61                          | 8                   | 49                                  | -     | 118   |
| February - "    | 87                          | 17                  | 86                                  | 1     | 191   |
| March - "       | 96                          | 7                   | 103                                 | 2     | 208   |

## BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES.

492,457 lbs. were produced during February, 1948 and 13,521,378 lbs. for the eight months ended February, 1948, as against 409,259 lbs. and 11,420,046 lbs., respectively, for the corresponding periods for 1947.

## GOLD PRODUCTION.

|                          | MARCH   |         | 3 Months ended MARCH |           |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|----------------------|-----------|
|                          | 1948    | 1947    | 1948                 | 1947      |
| Quantity ..... Fine Ozs. | 51,278  | 52,045  | 146,643              | 166,876   |
| Value (Aust.Currency) £  | 551,885 | 560,135 | 1,578,353            | 1,796,009 |

Dividends Reported by Gold Mining Companies for the 3 months ended March, 1948 amounted to £73,437. Dividends Reported for the corresponding period for 1947 were £202,812.



# RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS.

(Base Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities for 1923/27 = 1000)

|                      | MARCH |      | 9 Months ended MARCH |      |
|----------------------|-------|------|----------------------|------|
|                      | 1948  | 1947 | 1948                 | 1947 |
| Food and Groceries - |       |      |                      |      |
| Metropolitan Area    | 1207  | 1083 | 1148                 | 1059 |
| Kalgoorlie-Boulder   | 1347  | 1215 | 1289                 | 1080 |
| Northam              | 1224  | 1100 | 1171                 | 1074 |
| Bunbury              | 1210  | 1084 | 1156                 | 1058 |
| Geraldton            | 1234  | 1108 | 1179                 | 1083 |
| Collic               | 1218  | 1098 | 1168                 | 1073 |

## ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT.

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)

Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician.

| Month     | Males   | Females | Persons |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1947 -    |         |         |         |
| February  | 101,861 | 34,815  | 136,676 |
| March     | 102,999 | 35,339  | 138,338 |
| April     | 102,697 | 35,266  | 137,963 |
| May       | 103,356 | 35,479  | 138,835 |
| June      | 103,935 | 35,542  | 139,477 |
| July      | 104,271 | 35,640  | 139,911 |
| August    | 104,124 | 35,816  | 139,940 |
| September | 105,208 | 35,888  | 141,096 |
| October   | 105,646 | 35,924  | 141,570 |
| November  | 105,849 | 36,308  | 142,157 |
| December  | 106,764 | 36,645  | 143,409 |
| 1948 -    |         |         |         |
| January   | 106,732 | 36,366  | 143,098 |
| February  | 106,519 | 36,527  | 143,046 |

## EMPLOYMENT INDEX SERIES.

| Month    | FACTORIES<br>(Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100)) |      |      |         |         | RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS (b)<br>(Base: July, 1941 (9,578 Employees = 1000)) |      |      |      |      |
|----------|---|------|------|---------|---------|--|------|------|------|------|
|          | 1944  | 1945 | 1946 | 1947(a) | 1948(a) | 1944   | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 |
| January  | 137   | 142  | 145  | 162     | 173     | 826  | 870  | 995  | 1134 | 1233 |
| February | 138   | 142  | 148  | 164     | 173     | 824  | 868  | 1016 | 1138 | 1249 |
| March    | 139   | 144  | 151  | 166     |         | 825  | 877  | 1045 | 1145 |      |
| April    | 139   | 144  | 153  | 167     |         | 827  | 876  | 1051 | 1144 |      |
| May      | 140   | 144  | 154  | 168     |         | 832  | 891  | 1069 | 1151 |      |
| June     | 139   | 145  | 154  | 167     |         | 829  | 903  | 1087 | 1153 |      |
| July     | 140   | 146  | 157  | 168(a)  |         | 832  | 899  | 1096 | 1168 |      |
| August   | 140   | 145  | 159  | 169     |         | 832  | 897  | 1109 | 1181 |      |
| Sept.    | 140   | 143  | 160  | 171     |         | 834  | 914  | 1114 | 1172 |      |
| October  | 140   | 141  | 161  | 170     |         | 837  | 929  | 1118 | 1184 |      |
| November | 141   | 141  | 158  | 171     |         | 851  | 965  | 1133 | 1215 |      |
| December | 142   | 145  | 163  | 171     |         | 886  | 1012 | 1165 | 1267 |      |

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1947 are preliminary and are based primarily on Pay Roll Tax Returns.  
 Indexes computed by Commonwealth Statistician from Pay Roll Tax Returns.





UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

(Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician)

| Month     | Admittances |         |         | Discharges |         |         | On Benefit End of Month |         |         |
|-----------|-------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|           | Males       | Females | Persons | Males      | Females | Persons | Males                   | Females | Persons |
| 1947 -    |             |         |         |            |         |         |                         |         |         |
| February  | 396         | 12      | 408     | 559        | 15      | 574     | 838                     | 23      | 861     |
| March     | 459         | 13      | 472     | 549        | 13      | 562     | 748                     | 23      | 771     |
| April     | 342         | 3       | 345     | 314        | 8       | 322     | 776                     | 18      | 794     |
| May       | 454         | 11      | 465     | 481        | 15      | 496     | 749                     | 14      | 763     |
| June      | 347         | 10      | 357     | 352        | 7       | 359     | 744                     | 17      | 761     |
| July (a)  | 404         | 12      | 416     | 366        | 14      | 380     | 782                     | 15      | 797     |
| Aug. (a)  | 355         | 10      | 365     | 538        | 10      | 548     | 599                     | 15      | 614     |
| Sept. (a) | 181         | 5       | 186     | 286        | 5       | 291     | 494                     | 15      | 509     |
| Oct. (a)  | 179         | 6       | 185     | 233        | 5       | 238     | 440                     | 16      | 456     |
| Nov. (a)  | 175         | 12      | 187     | 249        | 10      | 259     | 366                     | 18      | 384     |
| Dec. (a)  | 185         | 7       | 192     | 132        | 10      | 142     | 419                     | 15      | 434     |
| 1948 -    |             |         |         |            |         |         |                         |         |         |
| Jan. (a)  | 335         | 4       | 339     | 392        | 9       | 401     | 362                     | 10      | 372     |

(a) Subject to Revision.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA.

(Generated by the W.A. Government Power Station)

|                               | MARCH  |        | 9 Months ended MARCH |         |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|----------------------|---------|
|                               | 1948   | 1947   | 1948                 | 1947    |
| Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.) | 19,548 | 17,978 | 166,088              | 148,246 |
| Units Sold (1000 K.W.H.)      | 16,374 | 15,277 | 142,589              | 126,524 |

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

| Month                      | Cattle | Calves | Sheep   | Pigs   |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
|                            | No.    | No.    | No.     | No.    |
| March, 1948                | 5,070  | 138    | 49,264  | 10,346 |
| March, 1947                | 5,654  | 228    | 72,376  | 11,722 |
| 3 Months ended March, 1948 | 14,979 | 636    | 162,464 | 30,440 |
| 3 Months ended March, 1947 | 14,950 | 828    | 230,880 | 37,131 |

